

PLAN OF THE WEEK

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Command Column

CDR J. S. Burhoe

Executive Officer



2000 U. S. SAVINGS BONDS CAMPAIGN

This year's Savings Bond Campaign runs from 1 – 30 April. The 2000 campaign theme is “**Creating a New Century of Savings.**”

Each of your divisions will have one or more canvassers who will be seeking you out personally to spread the benefits that Savings Bonds offer. I would personally like to tell you that U. S. Savings Bonds serve three valuable purposes:

- a painless way to develop a savings habit.
- build a sum of money that can be invested in stocks and bonds.
- grow an education fund that is tax-free.

In my particular case, the bonds I've bought (investing modestly) over the last 16 years will more than pay for my son's education at a state supported college. I plan to start cashing them in this Fall.

U. S. Savings Bonds are exempt from state and local taxes. Federal tax on the interest earned is deferred until the bonds are cashed. U. S. Savings Bonds can be held for as little as six months, or as long as 30 years; they are ideal for both short and long-term savings.

The Coast Guard's Goal for this year is to increase by 5% the number of employees saving with bonds; to increase by 10% the combined total of new savers and current savers who increase their level of saving; to achieve 50% or more total participation.

In 1999, a new Savings Bond, the “I” bond, was introduced. It is available again this year and is purchased at full face value with a guaranteed minimum interest rate. Its real value is that the interest rate is adjusted upward every six months to compensate for inflation. This ensures your bond will always stay ahead of inflation. This bond is open for purchase to civilian and military. For more information, contact ENS Chamberlin, Unit Coordinator, x2136.

Thoughts from Last Week:

--- An advance team for the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference (JCOC) paid TRACEN a visit and were quite impressed by our level of preparation and our facilities. The TRACEN will be hosting the JCOC visit on 4 May 2000. For more information, contact CDR Corporon.

--- TRACEN Yorktown hosted two high-level international visits, one by representatives from Georgia (the one sharing borders with Russia and Armenia, not South Carolina and Florida) and Azerbaijan. Both of these visits were coordinated by ITD and (ti) and were highly successful. Training Center Yorktown hosts many visits like these, which have significant impact on U.S. foreign policy and furthering America's strategic interests. For more information, contact LCDR John Hurst.

--- Consider buying a Savings Bond; and even if you decide not to buy one, be courteous to your key person, and save some other way. You'll be glad you did.

A Look Ahead:

31 MAR: 1130-1330, National Women's History Month Luncheon @ Portside, ISC Portsmouth, Keynote Speaker, RADM (Select) Vivien Crea, USCG, \$10.00/ticket. Contact Debra McGillvray, 628-4245.

1-31 APR: Annual Savings Bond Campaign, ENS Chamberlin, x2136.

2 APR: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (turn clocks ahead).

3 APR: 0830-1030, SAFE Trng: (E-1 to E-4) Mini-Aud
1045-1145, SAFE Trng: (O-4 & above) Mini-Aud
1300-1600, SAFE Trng: (E-5 to O-3), Mini-Aud

6 APR: 1000, TACLET North MOU Status Meeting, CO, XO, (t), (f), (e), (tops), Command Conf Rm, LT Broga, x2271.

7 APR: 0900-1000, JCOC Cos' Meeting, Command Conf Rm, CDR Corporon, x2143.

Important Items to Know:

✚ The next International Maritime Officers Course (IMOC) will start on 3 April and each student has requested to be sponsored. They will be living in Cain Hall and will be attending IMOC for 10.5 weeks. If you are interested in sponsoring a student in the next IMOC, please contact Billie Hill, x2236, or LT Richard Stoud, School Chief, International Maritime Officers School, x2602.

✚ Saturday, 15 APR: 1000-1300, Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch. A fun-filled day is planned for all dependent children, ages 12 & under, of TRACEN Permanent Party Military, Civil Service, and NAF employees. Registration is required to get a total count of people attending the event. Registration will be taken until 10 April, at the MWR Admin. For more information, contact Connie Cook-Hudson, x2312, or Carol Schmehl, x2009.

✚ The Spring Red Cross Blood Drive is on! It will be held on 30 March, between 1000 and 1400, in the Gym. For more information, contact LT Martin Malloy, x2359.

✚ The Outdoor Recreation (ODR) section of MWR will be having their Spring Grand Opening on Tuesday, 4 April, from 1100-1300, in front of the MWR Gym Bldg. There will be all types of raffles held during that time and you must be present to win. At the grand opening you will be able to view some of the tremendous recreational rental gear that is available to you through ODR. For more information regarding ODR, please contact PO Dan Cox, x2100/2279.

Web sites:

Ultrathin military ribbons web site:

<http://www.ultrathin.com/orderfrm.htm>

Reserve Availability Pool:

<http://www.uscg.mil/reserve/respool/respool.htm>

Index of links to running and walking sites:

<http://www.halcyon.com/richardc/run.htm>

Fitness facts, news, weekly recipes, exercises:

<http://www.drkoop.com/wellness/fitness>

Online service for Federal Employees:

<http://www.fedforce.com>

Chaplain's Corner:

Worship Opportunities at Olde Yorke Chapel:

0945 & 1630 Sunday Roman Catholic Mass

1100 Sunday Protestant Worship

1145 Daily Roman Catholic

0630 Promise Keepers on Tuesday & Thursday

1140 Ladies Bible Study every Thursday

There is also a mid-week Bible study at the Chapel every Wednesday, from 1140-1230. This is open to all personnel and their families.

Tricare Tip:

What is Tricare Prime Remote?

TRICARE Prime Remote is a program that provides Active Duty Service Members in the United States with a specialized version of TRICARE Prime, while they are assigned to duty stations in areas not served by the traditional military healthcare system (meaning the middle of nowhere). So, when you transfer and end up more than 50 miles from a military hospital or clinic, contact your HBA prior to departing to see if you're eligible or try this link to the Tricare Zip Code search page:

<http://tricare.osd.mil/remote/eli.cfm#ZipCodeSearch>

If you have any questions, call your TRACEN HBA, Kathryn Loveland, x2147, or visit Tricare on the web at:

<http://www.tricare.osd.mil/>

Congratulations:

The following personnel will be advanced to the rates listed on 1 April: RDCS L. Sydnor, FTC J. Ronan, YN2 R. Campbell, and HS2 J. Marquez.

Safety Tip:

On Sunday, 2 April, it will be time to "spring ahead" to Daylight Savings Time. This is also the time to change the battery and test your smoke detector. For more information, contact Roger West, Safety Manager, x2148.